

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 04511 182228Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 SIL-01 LAB-04
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 /052 W
-----191525Z 124637 /43

R 181701Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
INFO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 3436
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS ROME 4511

USDOC FOR CAGNC

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: BEXO, ELAB, SA, IT, KS
SUBJ: AMERICAN SUBCONTRACTOR IN SAUDI ARABIA SEEKS ITALIAN LABOR

1. SUMMARY

AMEBASSY ROME VISITED BY AMERICAN SUBCONTRACTOR WITH SAUDI ARABIAN PROJECT. PURPOSE WAS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF HIRING ITALIAN WORKERS IN PLACE OF KOREANS ALREADY THERE AND ANTICIPATED FUTURE KOREAN HIRING. THOUGH ON SURFACE MATTER IS A STRAIGHTFORWARD SITUATION, INTERESTING AND POSSIBLY UNPRECEDENTED RAMIFICATIONS MAY BE RESULT. END SUMMARY.

2. BASIC DETAILS: EMBASSY WAS VISITED MARCH 14 BY MR. E. TURNER OF L.E. MYERS INTERNATIONAL LTD., 550 W. JACKSON BLVD., CHICAGO, ILL.60606. FIRM IS CONTRACTOR IN ELECTRICAL UTILITIES FIELD. TURNER IS NORMALLY BASED AT CPO BOX 144, SEOUL, KOREA. ACTUAL ADDRESS A1115 NAMSAN VILLAGE ITAEWON, SEOUL. TELEPHONE 793 5611 EXT. 380. HE IS BASED IN KOREA AS RECRUITER FOR
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LABORERS FOR WORK ON LARGE ARAMCO-SUBCONTRACTED, HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL PPOWER TRANSMISSION PROJECT IN SAUDI ARABIA. THIS PROJECT COMPRISES 326 MILES OF LINES WITH 13 SUBSTANTIONS. FIRM ANTICIPATES LATER CONTRACTS FOR OVER ONE THOUSAND ADDITIONAL MILES. APPROXIMATELY 500 KOREAN NATIONALS ARE PRESENTLY AT WORK, BEING PAID DLR US 991.25 PER MONTH. WORK WEEK IS 48 HOURS. ALL WORK CLOTHES, LAUNDRY, RENT, FOOD, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH

CARE, AND REST AND RECREATION IN ATHENS (1 WEEK PER QUARTER)
ARE PROVIDED BEYOND BASIC WAGE.

3. LATE IN 1976, SAUDI GOVERNMENT INFORMED COMPANY THAT
VISAS AND WORK PERMITS WOULD NO LONGER BE ISSUED FOR KOREAN
WORKERS HIRED BY FIRM. FIRM FEELS THAT SOME PRESSURE FROM
KOREAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE CAUSED THIS. THAT IS, KOREAN
FIRMS ARE ALSO INVOLVED IN BIDDING FOR CONTRACTS AND CUTTING
OFF OF LABOR SUPPLY FOR U.S. COMPETITION COULD POSSIBLY ELIMINATE
THIS COMPETITION. MR. TURNER WAS NOT INCLINED TO DISCUSS
DETAILS. PROJECT IS IN EARLY STAGES AND APPROXIMATELY 1,000
ADDITIONAL WORKERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE NEEDED, THOUGH ONLY 400-500
AT ANY ONE TIME.

4. FIRM'S CHICAGO HEADQUARTERS INSTRUCTED TURNER TO VISIT
TAIWAN AND ITALY IN SEARCH OF LABORERS. AMEMBASSY ROME HAS
DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH TURNER AND POSSIBILITIES HERE SEEM
GOOD. TURNER HAS GONE TEMPORARILY TO SAUDI ARABIA BUT
EXPECTS TO RETURN TO ROME SHORTLY. HE WILL THEN MEET WITH GOI
LABOR MINISTRY OFFICE WHICH EXISTS FOR JUST SUCH AN OPERATION,
THAT IS, RECRUITMENT OF LABORERS FOR WORK ABROAD AND ASSISTANCE
TO FIRMS IN COMPLYING WITH STRINGENT ITALIAN
LABOR LAWS. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY CANNOT PREDICT WHETHER HIRING
OPERATION WILL BEGIN, THE QUESTIONS THIS RAISES ABOUT COOPERATION
IN THE MID-EAST ARE PROVOCATIVE. ALSO, THIS IS GOOD OPPORTUNITY
TO RETURN PETRODOLLARS TO ITALY.

5. NO ACTION REQUIRED OR REQUESTED.BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMPLOYMENT, VISITS, MEETINGS, LABOR FORCE, BUSINESS FIRMS, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Message ID: d9feedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3065494
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMERICAN SUBCONTRACTOR IN SAUDI ARABIA SEEKS ITALIAN LABOR
TAGS: BEXP, ELAB, SA, IT, KS
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9feedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009